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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
CONSUMPTION IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES DURING 1952 <sup>1/</sup>

The total supplies of meat available for consumption in specified countries <sup>2/</sup> during 1952 exceeded 1951 by about 4 percent and the 1946-50 average by 11 percent. Since the population increases from 1 to 3 percent annually in this group of countries the 1952 supplies represent a per capita consumption 4 percent larger than 1951 and equal to or slightly greater than the 1946-50 level.

## Meat Supplies by Areas

In North America the 1952 supplies of meat due to an increase in both production and net imports were 6 percent greater than 1951 and 4 percent larger than the 1946-50 level. Even though the demand for meat has been relatively strong, especially in the United States, the increase in supplies for recent years has been below population gains. The per capita consumption for this area during 1952 was about 5 percent below the 1946-50 level. During 1952 the per capita consumption ranged from 59 pounds in Mexico to 144 pounds in the United States.

In the European countries the 1952 supplies of meat exceeded 1951 by 6 percent and the 1946-50 average by 20 percent. These larger supplies have resulted from substantial increases in production above the early post-war low. The large increase in production was partially offset by an appreciable decline in net imports. However, per-capita consumption in Europe during 1952 was probably 4 percent greater than 1951 and more than 10 percent greater than the 1946-50 average. During 1952 the per capita consumption by countries in this area ranged from 25 pounds in Greece to 108 pounds in Denmark.

In the South American countries the 1952 consumption of meat exceeded 1951 by 5 percent and the 1946-50 average by 13 percent. These increases may be attributed to a substantial decline in exportable surpluses from the Argentine and a corresponding increase in domestic consumption

<sup>1/</sup> A summary of this information was published in the August 31, 1953 issue of Foreign Crops and Markets. <sup>2/</sup> See table for countries included.



MEAT I/: Production, net trade, and consumption, average 1946-50, annual 1951 and 1952

Countries	Production		Net trade		Apparent Consumption		Per capita consumption			
	In million pounds		Imports, - Exports		Average		In Pounds			
	Average 1946-50	1951	Average 1946-50	1951	Average 1946-50	1951	Average 1946-50	1951	1952 2/	In percent of 1946-50
Canada.....	2,053	1,865	1,977	1,977	58	1,738	1,803	1,771	134	123
Mexico.....	1,035	1,153	1,155	1,155	56	979	1,061	1,041	41	39
United States.....	22,264	21,908	23,035	23,035	125	21,521	20,802	22,393	147	144
Cuba.....	414	432	410	410	24	438	462	452	85	79
Australia.....	405	592	615	615	36	546	592	622	63	86
Belgium.....	559	716	778	778	165	724	742	765	85	86
Denmark.....	881	1,281	1,193	1,193	355	526	459	470	126	108
Finland.....	220	248	245	245	3	222	249	245	57	62
France.....	3,820	4,110	4,450	4,450	69	3,889	4,069	4,459	94	96
Germany, Western.....	2,700	4,200	4,450	4,450	160	2,860	4,266	4,521	60	85
Greece.....	160	160	180	180	32	192	174	185	25	22
Ireland.....	333	337	390	390	53	280	230	266	94	78
Italy.....	1,216	1,355	1,485	1,485	49	1,265	1,426	1,572	28	31
Netherlands.....	555	1,028	1,042	1,042	30	565	830	805	58	81
Norway.....	193	223	228	228	5	198	222	227	64	72
Portugal.....	324	342	345	345	6	330	343	344	40	40
Sweden.....	637	714	702	702	30	667	745	710	96	104
Switzerland.....	336	397	424	424	25	364	421	443	79	88
United Kingdom.....	2,025	2,555	2,880	2,880	3,001	5,056	4,898	5,281	99	96
Yugoslavia.....	784	843	859	859	16	800	841	850	51	51
Argentina.....	5,215	4,755	4,800	4,800	1,309	3,906	3,873	4,160	232	219
Brazil.....	2,695	3,041	3,150	3,150	133	2,562	3,001	3,140	52	56
Chile.....	429	392	381	381	12	417	391	380	73	66
Uruguay.....	743	838	823	823	236	507	616	601	218	252
Union of South Africa.....	918	878	935	935	12	930	877	952	78	69
Australia.....	2,137	2,202	2,309	2,309	491	1,649	1,836	1,798	212	218
New Zealand.....	1,201	1,139	1,296	1,296	814	743	471	436	211	228

1/ Carcass meat - excludes edible offal, lard, rabbit and poultry meat. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 4/ Production and trade include carcass meat equivalent of live cattle exports. 5/ Averages for years 1948-1950. 6/ Excludes farm production and consumption. 7/ Year ended September 30.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics of foreign governments, United States Foreign Service reports, and other information. August, 1953

accompanied by appreciable increases in meat production in Brazil and Uruguay. Per capita consumption in these countries during 1952, ranging from 57 pounds in Brazil to 243 pounds in Uruguay, possibly averaged 5 percent above the 1946-50 level.

In Oceania the supplies of meat channeled into domestic outlets during recent years have been about equal to gains in population. Additional increases in production have permitted increases in exportable surpluses from this area. During 1952 the per capita consumption of meat totaled 208 pounds for Australia and 220 pounds for New Zealand.

#### Per-Capita Consumption by Countries

The per capita consumption of meat continued during 1952 at a high level in those countries where meat production is well above domestic requirements and priced favorably with other foods. During 1952 per capita consumption exceeded 200 pounds in 4 countries - Uruguay, Argentina, New Zealand and Australia, ranging downward from 243 pounds in Uruguay to 208 pounds in Australia. Per capita consumption at a high level varies considerably from year to year in this group of countries.

A relatively high level of per capita consumption (144 to 100) pounds prevailed during 1952 in 5 countries. These countries in that order were the United States, Canada, Denmark, France and Sweden. The trend during recent years in per capita consumption has been downward in these countries except for France and Sweden.

The per capita consumption during 1952 ranged from 99 pounds to 50 pounds in 14 of the countries (mostly European) included in the accompanying table. Generally, the available supplies of meat in these countries have increased during recent years at a rate substantially above population gains. The largest increase in supplies for this group has occurred in European countries as a result of an increase in meat production from an early postwar low. Even with some tendency towards a leveling off of production in some of these countries the available supplies for the group are likely to increase at a rate above population gains at least for another year or two.

Per capita consumption during 1952 continued below 50 pounds in 4 countries, Portugal, Mexico, Italy and Greece. The available meat supplies have increased during recent years at a rate exceeding population gains in only one of these countries, Italy.

#### Per Capita Consumption by Type of Meat

The total supplies of meat available for consumption in the specified countries during 1952 consisted of about 52 percent beef, 41 percent pork, and 7 percent mutton. These proportions and consequently the per capita consumption of the different types of meat vary greatly from country to country.

In Uruguay about 72 percent of the total per capita consumption of meat was beef in contrast to 63 percent as pork for Denmark. Beef accounts for a very large share of the total meat consumed per capita in 7 countries including Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, Union of South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. In most of the remaining countries (except Denmark) beef and pork, combined on more of an equable basis, account for the larger share of meat consumed.

During 1952 the per capita consumption of pork was equal to or exceeded beef in 50 percent of the countries where comparable data were available; while pork exceeded beef in only 25 percent of these same countries during the 1946-50 period and 33 percent prior to World War II. This shift to larger supplies of pork has not been confined to European countries; a similar shift has also occurred during recent years in both the United States and Canada.



Meat 1/: Per Capita Consumption, by types, in specified countries in 1952, with comparison

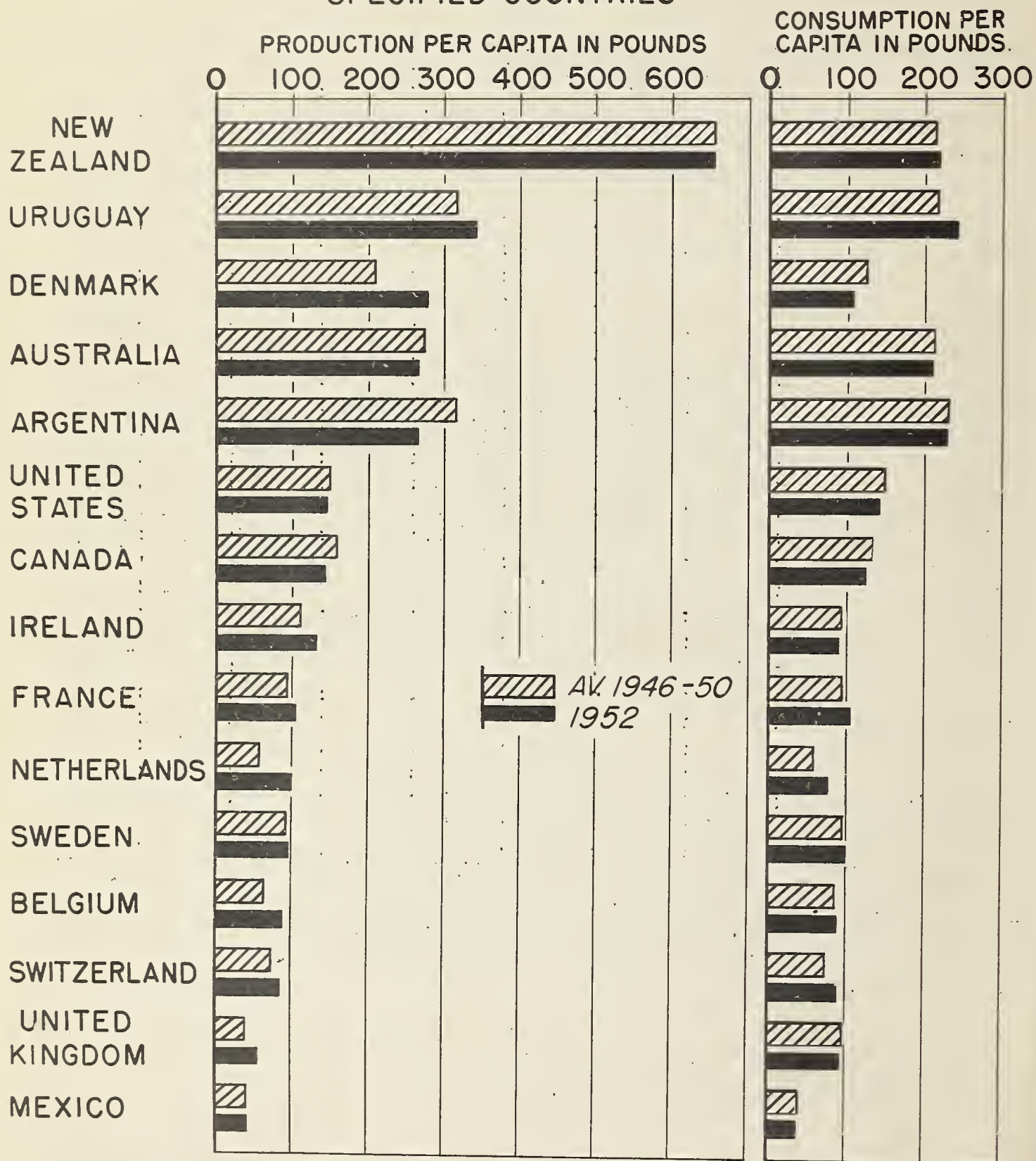
Country	Average 1946-50				1952 <u>2/</u>			
	Beef	Pork	Mutton	Total	Beef	Pork	Mutton	Total
	and	(excl	and	Total	and	(excl	and	Total
	Veal	lard)	Lamb		Veal	lard)	Lamb	
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Canada	70	55	4 : <u>3/</u>	134	52	62	2 : <u>3/</u>	123
United States	73	69	5	147	68	72	4	144
Belgium	35	33	2 : <u>4/</u>	85	41	42	1 : <u>4/</u>	91
Denmark	48	70	2 : <u>5/</u>	126	36	68	1 : <u>5/</u>	108
Finland	24	28	3 : <u>5/</u>	57	26	29	3 : <u>5/</u>	60
France	49	36	6 : <u>5/</u>	94	53	42	6 : <u>5/</u>	105
Ireland	37	44	13	94	35	42	13	90
Netherlands	27	27	1 : <u>5/</u>	58	34	40	1 : <u>5/</u>	78
Norway	28	24	10 : <u>5/</u>	64	29	27	11 : <u>5/</u>	69
Sweden	41	50	1 : <u>5/</u>	96	40	55	1 : <u>5/</u>	100
Switzerland	42	34	1 : <u>5/</u>	79	44	44	1 : <u>5/</u>	91
United Kingdom	43	17	24 : <u>3/</u>	99	33	37	22 : <u>3/</u>	96
Argentina	194	19	19	232	202	14	14	230
Brazil <u>6/</u>	40	10	1 : <u>7/</u>	52	45	11	1 : <u>7/</u>	57
Chile	49	10	14 : <u>7/</u>	73	42	10	11 : <u>7/</u>	64
Uruguay	142	6	70	218	174	17	52	243
Union of South Africa	56	7 : <u>7/</u>	15	78	52	7 : <u>7/</u>	15	74
Australia	116	22	69 : <u>3/</u>	212	123	17	64 : <u>3/</u>	208
New Zealand <u>8/</u>	107	33	71	211	115	28	77	220

1/ Carcass meat-excludes edible offal, lard, rabbit and poultry meat.

2/ Preliminary. 3/ Total includes canned meat. 4/ Total includes goat, horse and canned meat. 5/ Total includes goat and horse meat. 6/ Excludes farm production and consumption. 7/ Includes goat meat. 8/ Year ended September 30.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, and other information,--August 1953.

# MEAT:\* PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA SPECIFIED COUNTRIES



\* CARCAS MEAT - EXCLUDES OFFAL, LARD, RABBIT AND POULTRY MEAT

△ NOT AVAILABLE